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**Facsimile Transmission**


|          |  |            |                   |
|----------|--|------------|-------------------|
| To:      | Art Unit 3751  | From:      | Vicki E. Lannigan |
| Company: | Commissioner for Patents   | Date:      | January 31, 2006  |
| Fax No.: | (571) 273-8300   | Total pgs: | 13                |
| Re:      | Serial No.: 10/532,392<br>Title: Automatic Valve<br>Art Unit: 3751 |            |                   |

Sir/Madam:

Applicant herewith submits the following documents in connection with the above-referenced application.

1. Information Disclosure Statement
2. Form PTO-1449
3. International Search Report

Respectfully submitted,



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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|             |                 |           |                  |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|------------------|
| Applicant:  | Shia et al.     | Atty Dkt: | S-8490(1)        |
| Serial No:  | 10/532,392      | Art Unit: | 3751             |
| Date Filed: | April 22, 2005  | Examiner: |                  |
| Invention:  | Automatic Valve | Date:     | January 31, 2006 |

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**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to Art Unit 3751 at the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 to facsimile number (571) 273-8300.

Date: January 31, 2006

  
Vicki E. Lannigan

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications or other information of which he is aware, if any, which he believes may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The filing of the Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.56), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

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Any such patents, publications or other possibly material information which are known to Applicants are listed on the enclosed copy of PTO/SB/08 listing patents and/or other documents. After reasonable inquiry, no other information material to examination of the above-referenced application is known to Applicants.

Statement under CFR 1.97 (b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last, in keeping with 37 CFR 1.97 (b).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 31, 2006

  
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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|---|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Substitute for form 1446/PTO  |                        | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                  |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary) |                        | Application Number       | 10/532,392       |
|   |                        | Filing Date              | April 22, 2005   |
|   |                        | First Named Inventor     | Benedict Shia    |
|   |                        | Art Unit                 | 3751             |
|   |                        | Examiner Name            | Not Yet Assigned |
| Sheet 1 of 1  | Attorney Docket Number | S-8490(1)                |                  |

| U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                   |  |   |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials*  | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                        |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                   |  |   |
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|                        |                          | US-                                      |                                   |  |   |
|                        |                          | US-                                      |                                   |  |   |
|                        |                          | US-                                      |                                   |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |   |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>3</sup> |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>2</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |   |   |                |
|                          |                       | DE 198 19 432   | 11-11-1999                     | Storz Karl GMBH                                 | figures 1-3 per   |                |
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|                          |                       |   |                                |   | Search Report   |                |
|                          |                       |   |                                |   |   |                |
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|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Examiner<br>Signature | Date<br>Considered |
|-----------------------|--------------------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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